

NEWS RELEASE

Indiana Criminal Justice Institute

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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“Drunk Driving. Over the Limit. Under Arrest.” Ends with Approximately 11,000 Citations Issued for Impaired Driving and Other Violations

INDIANAPOLIS, IN. – The Governor’s Council on Impaired & Dangerous Driving and the Traffic Safety Division of the Indiana Criminal Justice Institute (ICJI) announced today the results of the recently concluded “*Drunk Driving. Over the Limit. Under Arrest.*” Labor Day crackdown. Approximately 11,000 citations were issued statewide as a result of the increased enforcement during the impaired driving mobilization that began on August 17 and concluded on September 9.

In southwestern Indiana, more than 1,000 hours of overtime were put in by nearly 100 officers during the campaign. These officers issued more than 850 citations for impaired drivers and other moving violations. “Impaired driving has far reaching ramifications. It does not just start and stop with the person behind the wheel driving impaired,” said Mike Cunegin, executive director of ICJI. “As a former law enforcement officer, I know first hand that a crash involving an impaired driver is devastating. What is even more tragic is that these crashes are clearly preventable.”

According to the Traffic Safety Alcohol Fact Sheet from the Center for Urban Policy and the Environment, 273 people, out of 899 total fatalities, lost their lives in traffic crashes in Indiana in 2006 due to an impaired driver. “Although this statistic is disturbing, I remain encouraged by the aggressive efforts of Indiana law enforcement and their continued crackdown on impaired drivers,” said Ryan Klitzsch, Traffic Safety division director at ICJI.

“I am confident high-visibility enforcement and intense media coverage deployed during this (DUI) campaign worked to heighten the public’s awareness of the dangers of impaired driving. However, drivers should be aware that sustained drunk driving enforcement will continue beyond this campaign,” Klitzsch concluded.

Governor's Council on
Impaired & Dangerous Driving



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This year's "Drunk Driving. Over the Limit. Under Arrest." enforcement crackdown benefited Hoosiers in many ways. While its primary purpose was to deter impaired driving through high-visibility enforcement, the mobilization also countered other potential traffic hazards, and rid local streets and neighborhoods of criminal activity. Following is a breakdown of significant arrests that occurred as a result of Indiana's increased DUI enforcement efforts:

County	Department	Significant Events & Arrests
Floyd	Floyd County PD	Two marijuana arrests
Knox	Knox County SD	Several minor consumption arrests along with several misdemeanor drug arrests and 1 felony drug arrest.
Knox	Vincennes PD	In one 8-hour period, a Vincennes police officer made 7 arrests: 1 operating while intoxicated (OWI), 4 minor consumption, 1 public intoxication and 1 public intoxication and contributing to the delinquency of a minor. Another Vincennes police officer was involved in a pursuit with a motorcycle which ended with the motorcycle crashing into the police car. The driver of the motorcycle was found to be under the influence of marijuana and methamphetamine. The motorcycle driver faces 6 charges and 10 citations, while the passenger on the motorcycle was arrested for a warrant.
Perry	Cannelton PD	While attempting to stop a possible OWI, the vehicle refused to stop. The pursuit lasted only a short distance and the suspect was charged with a felony OWI and resisting law enforcement.
Vanderburgh	Evansville PD	One felony warrant for auto theft, 1 armed robbery with a handgun (juvenile), 1 OWI with possession of a schedule III controlled substance.
Vanderburgh	Vanderburgh Co. SD	DUI arrest in front of a school zone on the first day of school.
Warrick	Newburgh PD	One OWI, D Felony and driving while suspended, 2 juvenile arrests for minor transporting, 1 citation for minor transporting, 2 citations for open alcohol container.

The national *Drunk Driving. Over the Limit. Under Arrest.* impaired driving crackdown is a prevention program organized by the U.S. Department of Transportation's National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) that focuses on combining high-visibility enforcement with heightened public awareness through advertising and publicity.

The Governor's Council on Impaired & Dangerous Driving serves as the public opinion catalyst and the implementing body for statewide action to reduce death and injury on Indiana roadways. The Council provides grant funding, training, coordination and ongoing support to state and local traffic safety advocates through funding from the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration.

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